

# SCOTTSDALE AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION PUBLIC MEETING Scottsdale Airport Terminal Lobby 15000 N. Airport Drive, Scottsdale, AZ

# **September 12, 2012**

#### **MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Michael Goode, Chairman

Gunnar Buzzard Ken Casey Bob Hobbi

William Schuckert Steve Ziomek

**ABSENT**: William Bergdoll, Vice Chairman

**STAFF:** Sarah Ferrera, Aviation Planning & Outreach Coordinator

Shannon Johnson, Management Analyst Chris Read, Airport Operations Manager

OTHERS: Mark Matthes, Jet Linx Scottsdale, LLC

Doris McClay, Planner

John Meyer, Airport Property Specialists

Keith Niederer, Senior Planner

Rachel Pearson, Vice President of Community & Government Affairs, SCVB

Anthony Sumner, Sandbox Development Jay Vidlak, Jet Linx Scottsdale, LLC

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Goode called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

## **ROLL CALL**

A formal roll call confirmed the presence of Commissioners as noted above.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Goode led the meeting in the pledge of allegiance.

#### **AVIATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

In the absence of Aviation Director Mr. Gary Mascaro, Airport Operations Manager Mr. Chris Read stated that the Aviation Director had nothing to report this month.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

## 1. Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting: August 8, 2012

Commissioner Buzzard made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2012 regular meeting. Commissioner Casey seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of six (6) to zero (0). Vice Chairman Bergdoll was absent.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No members of the public wished to address the Commission.

## REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS 1 - 9

1. Annual Update from the Scottsdale Convention and Visitors Bureau

Rachel Pearson, Vice President of Community & Government Affairs with the Scottsdale Convention and Visitors Bureau, presented the annual update to the Commission, discussing the tourism and travel industry in Scottsdale and describing the SCVB's plans to increase travel to Scottsdale, given that business travel is down and the forecast is that tourism in the metro Phoenix area will remain flat in 2013. They are working to increase group meeting travel in the May through December period. The Sight See and Fly Free on Us program has led to an additional 11,000 room night bookings in just 8 months.

The redesigned website now offers the same experience to all who visit it regardless of what device they are using. Brandel Chamblee is the golf ambassador for Scottsdale and is making commercials to be aired on the Golf Channel, blogging for the SCVB on <a href="https://www.llovescottsdalegolf.com">www.llovescottsdalegolf.com</a> and appearing in print ads in golf publications. She aired one of the commercials.

Working with 11 upper to luxury resorts and the market research company Axium, the SCVB is launching a three-year campaign to encourage leisure travel to Scottsdale from mind-November to mid-January. Ms. Pearson invited the Commissioners to check out <a href="https://www.scottsdaleholidayexperience.com">www.scottsdaleholidayexperience.com</a>

Chairman Goode inquired about whether there is still backlash regarding SB 1070. Ms. Pearson said some planners are still concerned, but not at the level they initially experienced. However the SCVB works with planners to share what Scottsdale hospitality is really like, and that mitigates the concerns.

She said the 11 resorts participating in the new Scottsdale Holiday Experience program are upper to luxury properties.

Commissioner Ziomek asked whether the organizers of the Air Fair have contacted the SCVB. Ms. Pearson said the Bureau always supports the Air Fair.

2. Discussion and Possible Action to Recommend Approval of 5-SN-2006#2 (Princess Townhomes)

Mr. Read noted that Keith Niederer and Doris McClay from the Planning Department and Anthony Sumner of Sandbox Development could answer questions. Mr. Read elaborated that this is a zoning case about 1-1/4 miles northwest of the approach into runway 2-1. This is not a zoning change request, as the land has been zoned R-5 residential since 2006. Before that the zoning was R-135. He reminded the Commission that residential development is allowed in AC-1.

Chairman Goode noted he had requested the air traffic patterns be shown. Mr. Read displayed this map, representing 14 days of air traffic in March. Mr. Read confirmed to Chairman Goode that avigation easements would be required for this development, but not soundproofing. The original site plan was for a hotel, but the developer now wants to build townhomes.

Commissioner Hobbi asked why this application was before the Commission. Mr. Keith Niederer, Senior Planner, explained that this is a site plan approval. The case was approved in 2006 for a hotel complex. Now that the developer proposes townhomes, the project has to be reapproved by the Planning Commission and City Council for site plan approval. Mr. Read added that Chapter 5 of the Aviation Code requires developments around the Airport be approved by the Airport Advisory Commission.

Commissioner Ziomek inquired about the immediate vicinity of the site. Mr. Read said there are hotels to the east and west. To the south is single family residential.

Commissioner Hobbi asked about the history of noise complaints in the vicinity. Aviation Planning and Outreach Coordinator Ms. Sarah Ferrara reviewed the data and told him that one complaint had been received in the last quarter. Commissioner Buzzard said only a few complaints are received annually from this area. Commissioners agreed that touch and go operations do not usually fly over this neighborhood.

Commissioner Casey said the two main IFR departures from Scottsdale Airport depart from Runway 3 typically in the morning and fly right over the area.

Chairman Goode inquired whether additional soundproofing would be out of the question. Mr. Niederer said it is not required in AC-1. However the Commission could make that a recommendation. Chairman Goode said other applicants in AC-1 have told the Commission they would include additional soundproofing. He felt this would be prudent and also would be a good selling point for the developer.

Mr. Anthony Sumner of Sandbox Development, representing Trend Homes, told the Commission they are just requesting a site plan change and would be willing to accept the

Airport Advisory Commission September 12, 2012 Page 4

Commission's recommendation for extra soundproofing. They could work the details out with staff.

Commissioner Casey said he is not anti-development but felt the two main instrument departures every morning would be an issue. For a hotel people who dislike the noise will simply not return to that hotel. Once people are living in the area if they object they will want to close the Airport.

Chairman Goode thanked him for raising that point. He said the map appears to show departures farther north.

Commissioner Ziomek said it would be important to notify purchasers that the properties are within two miles of the Airport. Mr. Niederer assured him that this is a requirement.

Commissioner Hobbi said he is always nervous when more and more residential properties are built around the Airport. The argument in favor of this is that because the Airport is such a great place people want to live nearby. He cautioned that the more residential is built around the Airport, it will be increasingly difficult to keep the Airport. He stressed that this is not an opinion; this is a factual matter. This happens to municipal airports all around the country, as people who moved to be close to their airport complain about the noise. He stated that the Commission is not against development. The concern is because they watch this process around the country.

Saying he had tallied up the pluses and minuses for this application, Commissioner Schuckert stated that the pluses are that this is a site plan amendment, not a rezoning case. The number of units is something to consider and the type of residence (hotel for transient guests versus permanent housing), and whether sound attenuation is included. He felt with soundproofing this could be a somewhat compatible use, given that this is in AC-1.

Mr. Read summarized that the Commission has three options:

- Not approve the application
- Approve the application as it stands
- Approve it with a stipulation to require additional sound attenuation.

Commissioner Buzzard made a motion to approve 5-ZN-2006#2 with the recommendation to examine sound attenuation techniques. Commissioner Ziomek seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of five (5) to one (1). Commissioner Casey dissented and Vice Chairman Beradoll was absent.

 Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Application for Airpark Aeronautical Business Permit for Jet Linx Scottsdale, LLC to conduct Aircraft Charter and Aircraft Management Services

Management Analyst Ms. Shannon Johnson stated that Jet Linx Scottsdale, LLC has applied for an aeronautical business permit and provided the appropriate documentation. She noted that company representatives were in attendance.

Commissioner Hobbi asked what documentation is required. Ms. Johnson said the Applicant had to provide proof of insurance, a business plan, a copy of their city business license, and similar paperwork.

Commissioner Ziomek asked Mr. Mark Matthes of Jet Linx Scottsdale, LLC what destinations they would fly to. Mr. Matthes replied they will fly wherever the client wants to go. He added this will be the company's seventh location. They operate a wide variety of aircraft out of Omaha, Indianapolis, Dallas, San Antonio, Denver and St. Louis.

Commissioner Casey made a motion to approve the application for an Airpark aeronautical business permit for Jet Linx Scottsdale, LLC to conduct aircraft charter and aircraft management services. Commissioner Ziomek seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of six (6) to zero (0). Vice Chairman Bergdoll was absent.

4. Discussion and Input Regarding Gulfstream 650

Noting that he had requested this discussion about allowing the Gulfstream 650 to conduct operations at the Airport, Chairman Goode invited Mr. Read to make a presentation. Mr. Read noted that this aircraft received full certification a few days ago. There are no operational restrictions on this aircraft with regard to Scottsdale Airport. The restriction at the Aspen airport is due to a county ordinance there limiting aircraft to a wingspan of 95 feet.

- Discussion and Input Regarding Monthly Operations Report for August 2012
- Mr. Read presented the operations report for August.
- 6. Discussion and Input Regarding Monthly Financial Statements for July 2012

Management Analyst Ms. Shannon Johnson discussed the report and pointed out highlights, noting that July is a slow month and the first month of the new fiscal year. Numbers should not be taken as indicative of how FY 2012/2013 will progress. She noted an error in the dates on the Aviation Fund balance sheet.

Commissioner Ziomek commented that although one cannot determine a trend from one month's worth of data, several indicators are down significantly from July 2011.

7. Discussion and Input Regarding Marketing, Community and Pilot Outreach Programs

Ms. Ferrara presented her report. Staff has secured sponsorships from the FBOs, Caliber Jets, Go Rentals and Pinnacle Aviation for the NBAA conference in October. The location of their booth is excellent. The Barrett-Jackson Classic Car Auction is providing a VIP prize package with an estimated value of \$2,900, as well as a 72 Dodge Challenger for the booth, which will attract attention. The other prize package is from the Phoenix Waste Management Open Experience.

Planning continues with Ciao Baby and Zulu Caffé for the upcoming Air Fair on November 3 and 4. Military personnel with ID will enjoy free admission. The event website is <a href="https://www.scottsdaleairfair.com">www.scottsdaleairfair.com</a>

In August five projects within the Airport influence area were submitted to the Planning Department.

In October staff will be making presentations to two groups of realtors to promote the Airport and educate them about noise abatement and disclosure.

Ms. Ferrera said she has distributed two Airport community news bulletins to their 2,800 subscribers.

No voluntary curfew reminder letters had to be sent in August.

A pilot briefing is scheduled for next week.

Commissioner Ziomek requested an update from Ciao Baby Catering at the next meeting. He expressed concern that of yet he has not seen anything published, nor has anyone contacted him in his capacity as the civil air patrol contact. Mr. Read stated that Aviation Director Mascaro also said he wants an update. Chairman Goode agreed this will be on next month's agenda.

Commissioner Casey asked how often the pilot briefings are conducted. Ms. Ferrera undertook to find out and report back.

8. Discussion and Input Regarding Status of Aviation Items to City Council

Mr. Read said City Council approved the recommendations the Airport Advisory Commission made at the August meeting.

Chairman Goode inquired about the status the office space and aircraft parking lease arrangement. Ms. Johnson said staff expects plans within the next couple of weeks and expect operations to begin on December 12. The company will be paying rent from October 1.

9. Discussion and Possible Action to Modify the Airport Advisory Commission Meeting Schedule and Commission Item Calendar

No changes were noted.

Airport Advisory Commission September 12, 2012 Page 7

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Chairman Goode summarized that Ciao Baby will be providing an update on planning for the Air Fair. He asked for the AZBAA to provide a presentation about Safety Day on November 13. As Chairman of the AZBAA, Commissioner Casey could do this.

Commissioner Buzzard made a motion to add a review of the Air Fair with Ciao Baby Catering and a safety briefing by the AZBAA as agenda items for the October meeting. Chairman Goode seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of six (6) to zero (0). Vice Chairman Bergdoll was absent.

Commissioner Schuckert reported that he had to apologize to a major aviation operator today about the cost of retail fuel at the Airport. He requested a discussion be agendized.

Commissioner Buzzard made a motion to agendize a discussion on the retail price of fuel at Scottsdale Airport. Commissioner Ziomek seconded the motion.

In discussion, Commissioner Schuckert said everyone has heard these complaints but it has not been discussed. A little research shows that the price is significantly higher than at other local airports. Mr. Read said all staff would be able to do is show what the FBOs are charging based on public information on their websites. Chairman Goode said this is free enterprise and the Commission cannot regulate fuel prices. Commissioner Schuckert said he just wants to have a discussion. Commissioner Ziomek said avgas is about a dollar per gallon less at most airports around the Valley.

The Chairman called the question and the motion passed by a vote of six (6) to zero (0). Vice Chairman Bergdoll was absent.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A/V Tronics. Inc. DBA AVTranz